

Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1) Situation Report

May 19, 2011

Background

Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1) infection in horses can cause respiratory disease, abortion in mares, neonatal foal death, and/or neurologic disease. The neurologic form of EHV-1 is called Equine Herpes Virus Myeloencephalopathy (EHM). While EHV-1 and EHM are only officially listed as reportable diseases in some states, private veterinary practitioners are encouraged to notify their State Animal Health Officials of any suspected or confirmed cases, regardless of current official state reporting requirements.

Cases of EHV-1 and EHM have been identified recently in horses that attended the National Cutting Horse Association (NCHA) Western National Championship event in Ogden, Utah held from April 29 to May 8, 2011. The NCHA has notified State Animal Health Officials of horses from their states that were entered in the event and may have been exposed to the virus. State Animal Health Officials have contacted the owners of potentially exposed horses. Standardized recommendations were developed by state and federal officials and are being followed to isolate exposed horses, monitor them for clinical signs of EHV-1, and work with private veterinary practitioners to test and treat horses affected with the disease. Biosecurity procedures have been recommended for premises with suspect and confirmed cases to mitigate further disease spread.

Definitions for This Report

Exposed Horses: Horses that attended the Ogden, Utah event from April 29 to May 8 and horses that subsequently came into contact with horses that attended the Ogden, Utah event (secondarily exposed).

Exposed Premises: Premises with exposed horses.

Suspect EHV-1 case: A horse exposed to EHV-1 that develops fever (rectal temperature above 101.5 °F), but has no neurologic signs at this time.

Confirmed EHV-1 case: A suspect EHV-1 case with laboratory confirmation of EHV-1 infection, but has no neurologic signs at this time.

Suspect EHM case: A horse exposed to EHV-1 that develops neurologic signs. (Posterior incoordination, weakness, recumbency with inability to rise, and/or bladder atony are most commonly seen in EHM cases.)

Confirmed EHM case: A suspect EHM case with laboratory confirmation of EHV-1 infection.

Summary Information on Current Situation

- Owners of horses known to have been exposed in this incident have been contacted by State Animal Health Officials.
- Suspect and confirmed cases are reported to be under voluntary or state quarantine.
- Known exposed horses are reported to be under either voluntary or state quarantine.
- A total of 34 confirmed EHV-1 or EHM cases have been reported in 9 states (AZ, CA, CO, ID, NM, OR, TX, UT, WA)
- Of the 34 confirmed EHV/EHM cases, 33 cases are horses that were at the Ogden, Utah event.
- There are 7 horses associated with this incident that are dead or have been euthanized.

Current Information by Affected State

States not included in the tables below have reported there are no known exposed horses related to this incident currently within their state.

Table 1. Horse Information

State	# Horses exposed in Ogden, UT	# Horses secondarily exposed	# EHV-1 Suspect Cases	# EHV-1 Confirmed Cases	# EHM Suspect Cases	# EHM Confirmed Cases	# Dead or Euthanized
Arizona	21	67	4	0	3	1	1
California	54	*	0	5	0	5	1
Colorado	30	68	19	7	0	2	2
Idaho	36	14	13	0	3	1	2
Illinois	1	9	0	0	0	0	0
Iowa	5	53	0	0	0	0	0
Minnesota	19	*	0	0	0	0	0
Montana	17	1	1	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	7	*	0	0	0	0	0
Nevada	7	8	3	0	0	0	0
New Mexico	9	*	3	1	1	1	1
Oklahoma	1	32	0	0	1	0	0
Oregon	20	120	0	2	0	0	0
South Dakota	4	*	0	0	0	0	0
Texas	26	323	*	*	1	1	0
Utah	*	*	1	5	2	*	0
Washington	34	0	0	1	4	2	0
Wyoming	17	34	1	0	0	0	0
Total	308	729	45	21	15	13	7

*Information not reported

Table 2. Premises Information

State	# Exposed Premises	# Exposed premises with suspect or confirmed EHV/EHM cases	# Exposed premises with no suspect or confirmed cases
Arizona	11	3	8
California	*	6	*
Colorado	10	6	4
Idaho	23	6	17
Illinois	1	0	1
Iowa	2	0	2
Minnesota	7	0	7
Montana	*	1	*
Nebraska	3	0	3
Nevada	7	2	5
New Mexico	6	2	*
Oklahoma	1	1	0
Oregon	16	2	14
South Dakota	2	0	2
Texas	16	2	14
Utah	*	3	*
Washington	26	7	19
Wyoming	43	1	42
Total	174	42	138

* Information not reported